

# Questions and Answers

## As a parent, how do I know how to teach my teen how to drive?

An instructional guide, "Teaching your teen driving habits for LIFE," is available through your county clerk's or driver license office, as well as online at the following web address: [drlic.kytc.ky.gov](http://drlic.kytc.ky.gov).

## How can a 4-hour class teach a new driver how to drive?

It can't. The 4-hour class does not teach someone to drive; that takes hundreds of hours of practice. The goal of the 4-hour class is to ensure a minimum level of knowledge about driver license laws and to reinforce safe driving habits.

## What will be taught in the Graduated Licensing safety course?

It is a four-hour course designed for new drivers. This class discusses the laws of driver licensing, rules and regulations, seat belt safety, drinking and driving, and driver attitude. This class does not consist of behind the wheel driving.

## How much does the Graduated Licensing course cost?

Courses offered by the Transportation Cabinet are provided at no charge to the student; these courses are funded through driver license fees.

## Does completion of the Graduated Licensing course reduce my insurance rates?

Individual insurance companies make this determination.

## I received my Kentucky learner's permit before October 1, 2006, how does Graduated Licensing apply to me?

If you received your permit prior to October 1, 2006, you will follow the Graduated Licensing process that was in effect at the time you received your permit. After holding your permit for 180 days you may take your driving skills test; upon passing you will receive your

full, unrestricted license. You then have one year to complete the Graduated License course; failure to do so will result in cancellation of your license until you have completed the course.

## Am I required to complete the Graduated Licensing class?

If you were under the age of 18 when you received your permit, you are required by state law to complete this class before you can receive a full, unrestricted license.

## What happens if I do not take this class?

You will not be eligible for a full unrestricted license until you complete this course.

## I am 18 now, am I still required to complete this class?

If you were under age 18 when you received your permit, you will be required to complete this course. If you were 18 or older when you received your permit, you are not required to take the course.

## I moved to Kentucky from another state, am I still required to take this course?

If you were under age 18 upon receiving your Kentucky license, you are still required to complete the Graduated Licensing course. However, if you completed driver training while you were an out-of-state resident, your certificate may be accepted as proof of completion. This certificate may be submitted to: Division of Driver Licensing, 200 Mero Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40622. Please include your driver's license number or social security number and date of birth with any correspondence submitted.

## If I took this course through a private driving school, will it be accepted?

Please be advised that not all private driving schools are accepted; in addition to attending an approved school, you must complete at least four hours of classroom instruction. If you are unsure if the private agency is accepted, you may contact our office at (502) 564-0276 extension 5363 for additional information. Or you may submit a copy of your completion to: Division of Driver Licensing, 200 Mero Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40622. Please provide your driver license number or social security number with any correspondence submitted. If the completion is not accepted, you will be notified by mail and be required to complete the Graduated Licensing class.

## If I took driver education at my high school, do I still have to take this class?

No, you do not have to take the Graduated Licensing Class. However, it is your responsibility to submit proof of your completion of drivers education. This certificate/school transcript may be submitted to: Division of Driver Licensing, 200 Mero Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40622. Please include your driver's license number or social security number and date of birth with any correspondence submitted.

## Do I have to hold my permit for one year?

No, you do not have to hold a permit for one year. You are required to hold a permit for a minimum of 180 days without any moving traffic violations (as explained in the previous section), after which you may submit to the driving skills test. If you pass the driving skills test, you will then enter the Intermediate phase, and an Intermediate sticker will be added to your permit. You are then required to hold the Intermediate license for a minimum of 180 days without any moving traffic violations (as explained in the previous section). The Intermediate license holds all of the same restrictions as the permit EXCEPT that you are no longer required to have a licensed driver as a passenger with you.

## When does the Intermediate phase begin and end, and what restrictions apply during this phase?

The Intermediate phase begins when you pass your driving skills test, and ends when you have met all the requirements to receive your full, unrestricted license. These requirements include holding the Intermediate license for a minimum of 180 days with no moving violations and completing the four-hour Graduated License course. Restrictions during the Intermediate phase are: no driving between midnight and 6:00 AM, no more than one passenger unrelated to you under 20 years old, and no moving violations for a full 180 days.

## Am I required to have a licensed driver over 21 as a passenger during the Intermediate phase?

No. You may drive on your own with your Intermediate license.

## What happens if I get a ticket/citation during the permit phase or during the Intermediate phase?

If you receive a citation/ticket while holding your permit or during your Intermediate phase, the 180-day period of the phase will begin anew. You will have to hold the permit or Intermediate license for a full 180-days conviction-free before being able to progress to the next licensing phase.

## If I still have my permit when I turn 18, will I have to complete the Intermediate phase?

No. If you do not take the driving skills test until you are 18, upon passing you will receive your full, unrestricted license.

## If I am convicted of a serious traffic offense, such as a hit and run, driving while suspended or driving without a license, what is the penalty?

Individuals under age 18 will lose their license until their 18th birthday or the applicable suspension period for the offense. Persons over 18 will be suspended for six months on the first offense, one year on the second offense and two years for the third subsequent offenses respectively.

## If I am under 21, will I lose my license if I am caught driving with .02 blood alcohol concentration (BAC)?

Your driving privilege will be suspended for a period between 30 days and six months. In addition, you may be required by the courts to do one or more of the following: pay a fine, complete at least 20 hours of community service, pay a reinstatement fee, attend an approved alcohol education course and retake the written test.

## Do I have to wear a seatbelt?

Yes. Kentucky state law requires all drivers to wear a seatbelt; as of July 1, 2006 failure to wear your seatbelt will become a primary offense instead of a secondary offense.

## Are there any new restrictions on drivers 18 years of age or older?

No.

## Where can I find additional information about Graduated Licensing?

More information is available on our web site at [drlic.kytc.ky.gov](http://drlic.kytc.ky.gov), or you may contact the Division of Driver Licensing at (502) 564-0276 extension 5363.



STEP 1: Permit Test

To obtain a driving permit in Kentucky you will be required to pass a written knowledge test and a vision examination at your local Circuit Court Clerk's office. (*Study manuals for the written test are available at your local Circuit Court Clerk's office.*)

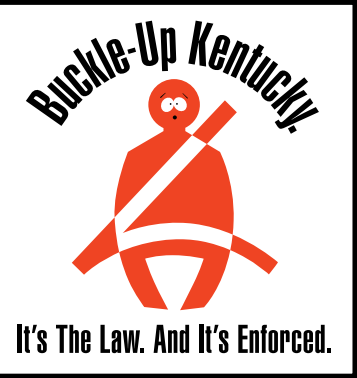
- You will need to bring your social security card and birth certificate with you. For all applicants under the age of 18, the signature of the parent/legal guardian, along with their license number or social security number, must be listed on the application.
- If you do not pass the permit test, you may retake this test on the next available testing date.

After you pass the permit test and receive your operators permit:

- You may drive only when accompanied by a driver at least 21 years of age.
- For persons under the age of 21, a distinctive "Under 21" permit will be issued.

Teens under 18:

- *Parents will be given a manual to help with teaching their teens to drive*
- You may not drive between midnight and 6:00 a.m.
- You must retain your permit for a minimum of 180 days before taking the driving skills test in order to be eligible for an Intermediate driver license.
- You must not have any moving traffic convictions under KRS 186, 189, 189A for the full 180 days.
- Parent/Guardian must certify 60 hours practice driving, with at least 10 hours at night.



- Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs is prohibited. A "zero tolerance" level of .02 blood alcohol concentration (BAC) has been established for all drivers under the age of 21.
- You may have only one passenger who is unrelated to you and under 20 years of age (secondary offense)
- You must wear your seatbelt.

STEP 2: Intermediate Driver License

- After holding your permit for at least 180 days with no moving violations, you may call your Circuit Court Clerk's Office in your county of residence to request a test time to submit to the driving skills test.
- The motor vehicle you will be using for your driving skills test must be properly registered and proof of liability insurance is required.
- If you do not pass the driving skills test, you must wait at least one week before retaking the driving skills test.

If you pass the driving skills test:

- You will enter the "Intermediate license phase" and an "Intermediate" sticker will be placed onto your permit by the KSP examiner.
- You must retain your Intermediate license for a minimum of 180 days before you will be eligible for a full, unrestricted driver license.
- You may not drive between midnight and 6:00 a.m.
- You may have only one passenger who is unrelated to you and under 20 years of age (secondary offense)
- You must not have any moving traffic convictions under KRS 186, 189, 189A for the full 180 days.
- You must complete a four hour driver safety course before applying for your full license.
- You must wear your seatbelt.

STEP 3: Full License

- After holding your Intermediate license for at least 180 days with no moving violations, and after completing the four-hour Graduated License class, you may apply to receive your full, unrestricted license.
- All drivers are subject to Kentucky's point system. Upon accumulation of 7 points or more (drivers under age 18) or 12 points or more (drivers over age 18), a hearing is conducted by the Transportation Cabinet and the driver is placed on probation or suspended of their driving privileges.
- Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs is prohibited.
- A "zero tolerance" level of .02 blood alcohol concentration (BAC) has been established for all drivers under the age of 21.
- The BAC limit for drivers over 21 is .08
- You must wear your seatbelt.

The Kentucky Graduated Licensing Program began in 1996 after the passage of House Bill 400 during the 1996 session of the Kentucky General Assembly, and was strengthened with the passage of House Bill 90 in 2006. The intent of this law is to reduce the number of teenage traffic accident injuries and fatalities by controlling a young driver's exposure and progressively moving the driver into more difficult driving experiences prior to full licensure.

This informational guide lists the key requirements of the Graduated Licensing Program and the steps teenagers and parents will need to take to comply with the law. The licensing process begins at the age of 16, at which time the individual may test for their permit. The following is an explanation of the Graduated Licensing process as it applies to new drivers receiving their learner's permit on or after October 1, 2006.

T S M X E U N X C I T M R O E N D A R N  
E C A I D E T A U D A R G A V H R T I E  
N E T S E I S S I X T E E N N S R X E B  
I E X R M X T T E L C I H E V R T A C R  
B L L K E S E N E T T G M D R R V S R D  
A L R I O U O B T S R T E R X E H E E L  
C I R C U I T C O U R T C L E R K T C I  
N N I E S A E B E U R U E P P P C E E P  
O T I I E D A P S T S A O C R E I U T H  
I E V S R E A S A S H D I C R S S G T E  
T R C I A E L A G R E C R I T X E S T A  
A M V I G E M D A R O S L S C R A O S S  
T E C T D E C E U V C G R E R R S A V R  
R D S E E A I E S E V E A I T D E I X T  
O I F N P N C A T O G N E A E L A E E O  
P A S S E N G E R R X T I E E D R B A T  
S T R L E C N N S B N R R E R A E A U S  
N E R C S I I C O E S E I T E T D A S I  
A A E P C E S L S N L E E T E A N R T U  
R E T O L L I I T E V E I I S C K T I E  
T R E D E O A T P P P T X T C O I P A E

Transportation Cabinet  
circuit court clerk  
vision exam  
intermediate  
passenger

graduated  
seat belt  
license  
permit  
sixteen

safe  
test  
driver  
vehicle  
course

Graduated Driver's License



A Guide For First Time Drivers

Steps for obtaining a new driver's license



drlic.kytc.ky.gov